

Cabinet

Monday, 23 January 2023 at 6.00pm

Council Chamber, Hackney Town Hall

Livestream Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NEZfjB6G9-U&t=513s>

Draft Meeting Minutes

Councillors Present in the Chamber:

Mayor Philip Glanville (Chair)
Deputy Mayor Cllr Annotinette Bramble
Deputy Mayor Cllr Guy Nicholson
Councillor Carole Williams
Councillor Robert Chapman
Councillor Susan Fajana-Thomas
Councillor Mete Coban
Councillor Caroline Woodley
Councillor Clayeon McKenzie
Councillor Sade Etti

Present virtually: Councillor Christopher Kennedy

Apologies: Councillor Sem Moema

Officers in attendance:

Mark Carroll, Chief Executive
Dawn Carter-McDonald, Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services
Ian Williams, Group Director Finance and Corporate Resources
Rickardo Hyatt, Group Director Climate Homes
Sonia Khan,
Tessa Mitchell, Governance Services Team Leader

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were noted from Councillor Kennedy and Cllr Maxwell. The Mayor also communicated the apologies on behalf of Councillor Moema.

2. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business to consider.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - MEMBERS TO DECLARE AS APPROPRIATE

With respect to Agenda Item 11, CED S167 Hackney a Place for Everyone – Voluntary and Community Sector Grants 2023/24 the following members of Cabinet declared an interest:

Mayor Glanville - Hackney Credit Union Account
Deputy Mayor Bramble, Trustee Hackney Play Bus
Cllr Fajana-Thomas, Hackney Credit Union
Cllr Kennedy - London Community Credit Union
Cllr Coban - Board Member of Badu Community CIC
Cllr Williams - Member of Shoreditch Trust Board

With respect to Agenda Item 17, School Governor Appointment – The Garden School, the Mayor declared that Mr James Peters is a friend and former councillor.

4. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN PRIVATE, REPRESENTATIONS RECEIVED AND RESPONSE TO ANY SUCH REPRESENTATIONS

No representations were received.

5. QUESTIONS/DEPUTATIONS

Since the publication of the agenda a question was submitted by former councillor Mr Vicent Stops with respect to Agenda Item 15 - Cabinet report on 3 Year Local Implementation Plan.

6. UNRESTRICTED MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Cabinet held on 12 December 2022 were agreed.

7. New Items of Unrestricted Urgent Business

There were no new items of unrestricted urgent business considered.

8. FCR S095 CAPITAL UPDATE AND PROPERTY DISPOSALS AND ACQUISITIONS REPORT

In the Mayor's introduction he highlighted investment linked to Agenda Item 15 on the 3 Year Local Implementation Plan, capital investment in supporting school streets, air quality, parks without borders, CCTV and the Council's Depot.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet approve:

- 1. The scheme for Climate, Homes & Economy as set out in section 11 of the report as follows:-**
 - a. Millfields Depot CCTV Cameras, Shutters and Emergency Generator: Spend approval of £246k in 2023/24 and resource and spend approval of £134k in 2023/24 is requested to upgrade and install a new CCTV system and six ANPR cameras; six new waste transfer station shutters; and install a new emergency generator.**
 - b. Local Implementation Plan (LIP) TfL funded Scheme: Resource and spend approval of £1,058k in 2022/23 is requested to fund the first year of the three year Local Implementation Plan (LIP) programme to be considered for approval under a separate item at this Cabinet meeting.**
 - c. School Streets: Resource and spend approval of £1,105k (£360k in 2023/24, £430k in 2024/25 and £315k in 2025/26) is requested to fund the implementation of 17 school streets scheme.**
 - d. Connecting Green Spaces - St Thomas Long Burial Ground: Spend approval of £100k in 2022/23 is requested to deliver a new entrance into St Thomas Long Burial Ground from Well Street, making it easier for people to access the Green Space and move through it.**
- 2. The s106 scheme as set out in section 12 of the report.**
- 3. The capital programme adjustments as set out in section 13 of the report.**
- 4. The authorisation of the Group Director of Finance and Corporate Resources to agree the terms of the simultaneous surrender of the existing leases and grant of new leases incorporating the loft space for both 5B Sharon Gardens, E9 7RX and for 76 Fletching Road, E5 9QR shown for identification purposes only in the Appendices 1-4.**
- 5. The authorisation of the Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services to prepare, agree, settle and sign the legal**

documentation required to complete the transaction.

9. FCR S096 2022/23 OVERALL FINANCIAL POSITION REPORT - NOVEMBER 2022

Councillor Chapman in his introduction drew reference to the recommendations in the report and was pleased to announce that the overspend has come down. Councillor Chapman thanked officers and Cabinet colleagues for their work on bringing this down.

Deputy Mayor Bramble spoke to the second recommendation on supporting Hackney's foster carers. Deputy Mayor Bramble stated that foster carers within the borough will be exempt from paying Council Tax which will equate to a saving of approximately £1000 per year and will make a significant difference to those faced with the challenges of the cost of living crisis. Hackney's foster carers located outside of the borough will receive an increased weekly payment of money which will go towards their council tax band. It is hoped that the additional support will encourage more people to consider fostering.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet agree:

- 1. To note the update on the overall financial position for November covering the General Fund and HRA.**
- 2. To approve the proposal, to award a 100% Council Tax exemption to foster carers paying Hackney Council Tax, effective as from 1st April 2023; and to amend the Policy for Considering Applications for Council Tax Reduction under Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as Amended by the Local Government Finance Act 2012, accordingly. The Amended Policy Document as attached at Appendix 1 of the report.**
- 3. To approve a £10 per week contribution towards the Council Tax of foster carers who foster Hackney children but who live outside of the London Borough of Hackney, to be met from the Children and Families Corporate Parenting placement budget. It will be effective from 1st April 2023.**

10. FCR S094 2023/24 COUNCIL TAXBASE AND LOCAL BUSINESS RATES INCOME REPORT

It is noted that the report was published late due to the need to reflect the decision on the localised business rates pooling scheme.

In his introduction, Councillor Chapman stated that there is a requirement to raise the amount expected in business rate income. The proposal for Council Tax in the coming year is a collection rate of 92 percent from around 80 percent which is a substantial increase in what the Council is presently experiencing. Councillor Chapman added that the current collection has been severely hit by Covid and other pressures on the community.

Councillor Chapman reported that there will be no changes to the formal Council Tax Reduction Scheme this year however support measures will be forthcoming.

On a recorded vote, there being:

9 Elected Members for: Mayor Glanville, Deputy Mayor Bramble, Cllr Woodley, Cllr Fajana-Thomas, Cllr Williams, Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Chapman, Cllr McKenzie, Cllr Coban

0 Abstentions

0 Elected Members against

RESOLVED

Cabinet is recommended to:

- 3.1 Recommend to Council that, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Hackney Council as its Council Tax Base for 2023/24 shall be 77,108.86 Band D equivalent properties adjusted for non-collection. This represents an estimated collection rate of 92.5%.**
- 3.2 Recommend to Council that in accordance with The Non-Domestic Rating (Rates Retention) Regulations 2013 Hackney's non-domestic rating income for 2023/24 is £161,803,507 subject to completion of the 2023-24 NNDR1 return. This comprises three elements.**
 - £59,639,165 which is payable in agreed instalments to the Greater London Authority**
 - £48,972,654 which is retained by Hackney Council and included as part of its resources when calculating the 2023/24 Council Tax requirement.**
 - £53,191,688 which is payable in agreed instalments to Central Government**
- 3.3 To note that no changes are proposed to the current CTRS scheme in 2023/24.**

Council is recommended to agree:

- 3.4 In accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by Hackney Council as its Council Tax Base for 2023/24 shall be 77,108.86 Band D equivalent properties adjusted for non-collection. This represents an estimated collection rate of 92.5%**
- 3.5 In accordance with The Non-Domestic Rating (Rates Retention) Regulations 2013, Hackney's non-domestic rating income for 2023/24 is £161,803,507 subject to completion of the 2023-24 NNDR1 return. This comprises three elements.**
- **£59,639,165 which is payable in agreed instalments to the Greater London Authority**
 - **£48,972,654 which is retained by Hackney Council and included as part of its resources when calculating the 2023/24 Council Tax requirement.**
 - **£53,191,688 which is payable in agreed instalments to Central Government**
- 3.6 To note that no changes are proposed to the current CTRS scheme in 2023/24.**

11. CED S167 HACKNEY A PLACE FOR EVERYONE - VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR GRANTS 2023/24

Given Mayor Glanville's declared interest, Deputy Mayor Bramble chaired this item.

Councillor Kennedy (virtually) introduced the report and drew reference to section 4.1 that summarised the grants for community chest, children and young people and physical activity. In his introduction, Councillor Kennedy spoke of the pressures on advice services and the requirement as part of Hackney's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy to help people to be properly covered for financial inclusion. Councillor Kennedy also spoke of the 12 percent uplift in grant funding from Public Health.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet approve:

[Approved by Cllr Woodley, Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Chapman and Cllr McKenzie]

- 3.1 The timetable for the Hackney Voluntary and Community Sector Open Grants Programme for 2023/24.**

- 3.2 That the following funding streams can be launched through the programme:**
- **Community Infrastructure core grants of up to £19,800 per year for two years with allocation of these grants subject to Cabinet approval in July 2023**
 - **Project Grants (including the Public Health Physical Activity Grants) for up to £20,000 for one or two years from April 2023**
 - **Community Chest grants for up to £1,000 for one year for short term projects or one-off activities from April 2023 (with four grant rounds spread throughout the year)**
 - **Children and Young people activity based grants of up to £20,000 over one year totalling £225,000 from April 2023**
- 3.3 That the funding of advice services in the borough for three years following an open and competitive programme as set out in Appendix Two, totalling £922,500 and the use of remaining advice grant budget to meet some of the identified gaps in provision.**
- 3.4 That the one year funding for Specialist grants totalling £719,066 as set out in Appendix One.**
- 3.5 That in regards to Community Infrastructure grants to:**
- **award a second year of funding (of a total of three) for existing Community Infrastructure organisations at £19,800 each per annum, which includes a 10% uplift (see Appendix One)**
 - **award those organisations in receipt of Community Infrastructure grant in 2022/23 an increase of the in-year funding by £3,000 to provide a total of £18,000**
 - **carry over £25,000 development funding that can be deployed to support development and capacity building to enable gaps in geography or community to be addressed.**
- 3.5 To set aside £200,000 of the grant programme budget provision for financial intervention for organisations at risk of closure and delegate authority to approve grants to the Head of Policy and Strategic Delivery in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, adult social care, voluntary sector and leisure.**
- 3.6 To contribute to the London borough's grant scheme administered by London Councils 2023/24 and note that the contribution will be in the region of £208,093**
- 3.7 To delegate authority to approve the Project Grants 2023/24 including Community Chest, Physical Activity and Children and Young People's Grants, as well as the deployment of resources to address and/or meet any gaps in Advice Services or Community Infrastructure grants, to the Head of Policy and Strategic Delivery in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Health, adult social care,**

voluntary sector and leisure, and the Portfolio Holder for education, young people and children's social care

12. CE S132 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE FULL YEAR REPORT TO MEMBERS 2021-22

In Deputy Mayor Bramble's introduction she highlighted the hard work of staff across the service. Deputy Mayor Bramble also reflected on the challenges of the cyber attack and perseverance from staff to keep the service going.

The Deputy Mayor spoke of Ofsted's front door visit and the positive comments received on political leadership. Other highlights mentioned are Children and Young People Now award to staff with Hackney's anti-racist practice being led by the service and now a beacon across the country.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet approve:

The recommendation to note the content of the Children and Families Annual Report 2021/2022 (Appendix 1), endorse the report and recommend it to Full Council.

13. CE S155 SECURE CHILDREN'S HOME FOR LONDON AND PAN-LONDON COMMISSIONING VEHICLE

In Deputy Mayor Bramble's introduction of the report she spoke of the challenges placing children and young people in homes outside of the borough, and made reference to young people of Black and global majority being placed in areas where their culture is not reflected.

Deputy Mayor Bramble reported the importance of securing homes in London which will be at market price and mentioned that there is presently insufficient accommodation available in London.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet approve:

That the London Borough of Hackney becomes a member of a not-for-profit company, limited by guarantee, provisionally to be known as the Pan-London Vehicle, to:

- a. develop and then oversee the running of London's secure children's home provision for a five-year period from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2028, with a break-point after three years once the**

refreshed business case has been developed as well as the service pricing structure, commissioning approach, operating model, practice model and the SCH's location is confirmed. Once the provision has launched, membership will be at a fixed annual cost of £20K (subject to inflation adjustment), unless an alternative model for funding the PLV, that does not require an annual subscription, is agreed by members during the development phase and

- b. collaborates with other PLV members on future joint commissioning programmes.**

To commit in principle to joint oversight and risk/benefit sharing of the secure children's home provision, through the PLV, for a five-year period to 31st March 2028 (with a three-year breakpoint), which includes the build, service development and service commissioning phases, subject to ratification after the provisions of the SCH business case, and renewable on a ten-yearly cycle thereafter, with break-point after five years.

To delegate authority to the London Borough of Hackney Group Director for Children and Education in consultation with the Group Director of Finance and Corporate Resources and the Council's Monitoring Officer to:

- finalise the legal documents required to set up, join and run the PLV and**
- make the final determination on the Council's membership of the PLV, following completion of the revised SCH business case and, if appropriate, enter into all the legal agreements, contracts and other documents on behalf of the Council required to implement and run any aspect of the PLV arrangements.**

14. CHE S145 COMPACT, PARTNERSHIP WORKING WITH HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

In the Mayor's introduction he highlighted the importance of the compact to allow the Authority to continue working in partnership with housing associations. The Mayor mentioned that Hackney has the highest proportion of households in social housing in the country and referenced the good social mix of the borough. The Mayor spoke about the social housing crisis and mentioned that around half of the social housing in the borough is provided by housing associations. The compact seeks to agree a common set and a new path in working with the borough's housing associations.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet approve:

The Hackney Council Housing Associations Compact 2023-2026 as appended in Appendix 1 to the report.

15. CHE S152 CABINET REPORT 3 YEAR LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (LIP) 22/23 - 24/25 (PAGES 283 - 432)

In his introduction, Councillor Coban thanked officers in Streetscene for their hard work in bringing forward an ambitious plan to improve air quality in the borough. The Local Implementation Plan speaks to concerns on air quality and traffic and ensures that the Council are responding to residents concerns on air quality.

Councillor Coban also referenced the 48 school streets that cover 51 primary schools and Hackney's air quality monitoring map.

Question from Mr Stops

Hackney's bus services are hugely important to its residents. They provide affordable, sustainable, inclusive and active travel for every resident of the borough, 24/7. Yet for too long their speeds (bus journey times for their passengers) has been too slow.

The 236 is delayed on Boleyn Road by parked cars; the 106 on Manor Road; the 55 on Hackney Road; 253/254 on Amhurst Park Road and the 38 on Graham & Balls Pond Roads. London TravelWatch, the capital's passenger watchdog, is running a 'Free the Bus' campaign. When will Hackney Council free the bus from delays caused by waiting and parked cars on their bus routes on Hackney's roads.

Response

In his response, Cllr Coban thanked former councillor Vincent Stops for his question and the role he plays in getting the borough to where it is on buses. Cllr Coban agreed with Mr Stops' views and the Council shares his ambition. He went on to say that it is an incredibly important mode of transport for Hackney's residents to get around to visit family and for work. It is an important part of Hackney's transport strategy, pledge to reach net-zero and helping buses to stay on their schedules.

The Council fully supports measures in continuing to review bus operating hours across the borough and recently extended the bus lane opening hours on the eastbound lane on Graham Road to operate on Sundays. Additionally, the southbound bus lane on Mare Street to Well Street to operate 7am - 7pm Monday to Saturday. Councillor Coban stated that they are aware of delays on

the borough's boundary roads, and that these are the responsibility of the adjoining borough. Councillor Coban stated that the issues have been raised with the adjoining authority and Transport for London.

On the specific issues of dealing with obstruction of parked cars on bus routes. We have recently addressed this on both Graham Road and Manor Road by removing parking in specific pinch points, and will also be exploring this on Balls Pond Road together with Islington Council. Councillor Coban went on to say that the Council have applied for TfL funding to address delays on Amhurst Park and will constantly monitor hotspots reported by bus operators and take appropriate action as necessary.

The Mayor echoed Councillor Coban comments and acknowledged Mr Stops' passion for addressing the challenges along Balls Pond Road.

Action: Councillor Coban to follow up with a written response to Mr Stops' questions.

16. CHE S122 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH STREET BUS GATE AND LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD - OFFICER KEY DECISION FOR NOTING

Dawn Carter-McDonald, Director of Legal, Democratic and Electoral Services stated that all officer key decisions are published on the Council's website. This is required by the Access to Information (England) Regulations 2012 and going forward the decision has been made to ensure good governance, accountability and transparency. Additionally, that all cabinet colleagues are aware of the decisions made by officers, and that it will be brought to a Cabinet meeting following publication for noting. These reports can also be found on the Council's website under a delegated powers search.

The report being brought forward for noting is an officer key decision with regard to Stoke Newington Church Street Bus Gate and Low Traffic Neighbourhood and ask that Cabinet note the report.

The Mayor welcomed the positive approach in governance procedures for Cabinet to receive and note key officer decisions.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet note the report.

17. SCHEDULE OF LOCAL AUTHORITY SCHOOL GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL GOVERNOR AT THE GARDEN SCHOOL.

Given Mayor Glanville's declared interest, Deputy Mayor Bramble chaired this item.

It was noted that Mr Peters is known to many as a former Hackney councillor.

RESOLVED

That Cabinet approve:

The nomination of Mr James Peters as Governor at The Garden School.

18. NEW ITEMS OF UNRESTRICTED URGENT BUSINESS

There were none.

19. FUTURE MEETING DATES

27 February 2023

13 March 2023

24 April 2023

Meeting closed at 6.51pm